

Packers Heritage Trail Foundation, Inc.
May 24, 2017

The Packers Heritage Trail Plaza will soon have a sixth statue. Miron Construction will be installing a statue of the Lumberjack Band's drummer this Thursday afternoon (May 25), starting at about 1 p.m. Foundation Board members Scott King and Cliff Christl (920-737-9630) will be on site during the installation.

The plaza is located at the corner of Washington and Cherry streets in downtown Green Bay.

Miron Construction and owners David & Jane Voss, Jr., and Tim and Andrea Kippenhan sponsored the statue. Sculptors at The Fine Art Studio of Rotblatt-Amrany, in Highwood, Ill., created the statue.

The commemorative plaque that will adjoin it will read as follows:

Drumbeat of The Lumberjack Band

The Lumberjack Band was once synonymous with the Green Bay Packers. It performed at home games, pep rallies and other celebrations; and energized players and fans alike with its rollicking capers and snappy music. Loosely organized in 1921, the Lumberjacks took Chicago by storm that season when they led an invasion of some 500 fans for the first Packers-Bears game. The band left Green Bay on a midnight train and upon arriving in Chicago in the early morning hours marched through the Loop before heading out to Cubs Park for the game. Dressed in hunting caps, mackinaws, flannel shirts, corduroy pants and high boots, they kept a lively pace playing such songs as "On Wisconsin," and "How Dry I Am." In 1939, the Packers took over sponsorship, dressed the band in red coats and green trousers, and made the association official. Lore has it that Vince Lombardi ordered the band to change its name to Green Bay Packer Band and adopt a more professional look after the Packers won their second straight NFL title in 1962. At that point, the Lumberjack name was abandoned and members started wearing prim green blazers and grey trousers. Whatever the case, Lombardi once called it, "The best playing band in the National Football League."

**Sponsored by: David & Jane Voss, Jr.
Tim & Andrea Kippenhan**

The Packers Heritage Trail Plaza was dedicated in 2013. The Packers Heritage Trail, which celebrates 50 years of Packers history from Curly Lambeau to Vince Lombardi, was created a year earlier with 22 commemorative plaques placed at sites mostly in downtown Green Bay.

The other statues at the plaza include Packers co-founder George Whitney Calhoun; and former stars Johnny Blood, Clarke Hinkle, Paul Hornung and Bart Starr. Accompanying Hinkle and Starr are statues of a young boy holding Hinkle's hand and a young girl seeking an autograph from Starr.

All of the statues at the plaza were sculpted by the Rotblatt-Amrany studio.

The plaza was designed by Performa Inc., of De Pere and constructed by Miron.